<!--This file created 1/20/97 6:08 PM by Claris Home Page version 2.0-->Aortic Pathologies -Quantification

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## Summary:

Atherosclerosis - Aortic Root Sectioning and Analysis

Reagents and Materials:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reagent/Material | Vendor | Stock Number |
| Tissue molds 15 x 15 mm  | Fisher Scientific | 41-741 |
| OCT compound  | Fisher Scientific | 14-373-65 |

Protocol:

***WARNING HAZARDOUS CONDITION WARNED AGAINST. This comment describes a hazardous condition to which the technician may be exposed in the performance of this protocol. It also contains directions on how to avoid or minimize the danger. Warnings are always and only used for personnel safety, and precedes the first step that will expose the technician to the hazard.***

Expected procedure duration:

15 minutes

Equipment Prep:

1. Dissecting scissors, forceps, Scalpel blade.
2. Tissue molds 15 x 15 mm
3. OCT compound
4. Microscope

Procedure:

Dissecting Aortic Root

1. Dissect and remove the heart and aorta from mouse.
2. Separate the heart from the aorta by holding the heart with the forceps and cutting with either scissors or a scalpel blade, as close to the heart as possible without causing damage.
3. Using scissors cut away approximately 70% (from the apex to 3 mm away from the base) of the ventricles.
4. Partially fill (about ¼ full) tissue mold with OTC, place the upper portion of the sectioned heart that contains the aortic root in the OCT already in the mold and cover with OCT.
5. When the aortic root is placed in the tissue mold in preparation for slicing, it needs to be positioned to be perpendicular to the bottom surface of the tissue mold.